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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Alderman Natavias Ervins
City Council Member
Representing the 6th Ward
3116 Chanters Court
Rockford, IL 61109

Kathryn Olson, Board Chair
Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Alpine Dialysis (Proj. No. 17-039)

Dear Ms. Olson:

I am a lifelong resident of Rockford, Illinois and proud to serve on the City Council as the Alderman for the 6th Ward. Rockford is a vibrant city with many beautiful natural resources and thriving area businesses. I am a carpenter by trade and I hope to further improve the infrastructure of my community to build a foundation for future success.

For this reason, I write to support DaVita's proposed Alpine Dialysis clinic, to bring much needed dialysis services to southeast Rockford. The proposed location will lie just east of the Ward 6 boundary, but I know it will greatly benefit those in Wards 6, 8, and 14 – the southeast areas of Rockford – who require dialysis to survive.

Southeast Rockford does not currently have any dialysis clinics, so patients in this area must travel to other parts of town for their treatment. The southeast is a low-income area of town, and getting to other parts of Rockford can be difficult for those who rely on public transportation, because a quick trip "across town" can easily become a 45 minute bus ride each way. Patients with kidney failure need dialysis three times a week, so that time can quickly add up. Southeast Rockford also has large Hispanic and African American populations – two groups that experience higher rates of kidney disease. As a result, we have a lot of kidney disease in the area, and we could use better access to these services.

We are hopeful that DaVita's proposed Alpine Dialysis clinic will be approved to address this issue. I fully support the proposed project and request that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve the application for Alpine Dialysis.

Sincerely,

Natavias Ervins
Rockford City Councilman

